and BHAVINI Ltd.) set up for this purpose. The efforts of the Government to access imported reactors and fuel through international cooperation would open up the possibility of further capacity addition reaching a capacity well beyond 20,000 MWe by the year 2020. However, achieving such capacity addition by NPCIL will depend upon future developments in this regard.

(b) Department of Atomic Energy have not submitted any proposal for setting up of neclear power plants for consideration of the Committee of Secretaries.

(c) Does not arise.

Begging by children

†*3. DR. PRABHA THAKUR: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that thousands of children in the country are either engaged in begging or being used as means of begging;

(b) the steps taken by Government to protect them from such exploitation;

(c) whether Government are aware that several anti-social organisations are engaged in these activities who torture these innocent children after kidnapping and make them source of their income by forcing them to beg; and

(d) the measures taken by Government to salvage these tiny kids from such in-human and exploitating situation and whether these measures have proved to be effective; if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MEIRA KUMAR): (a) to (d) Beggary is an intricate problem having socio-cultural and economic ramifications. It is also a kind of wanton deviation on the part of those who beg willfully, habitually and professionally. Hence, it is a law & order problem also. The main action to prevent beggary lies with the State Government/Union Territories.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.